is based is the commitment of January 6, 2004 by Pakistan not to permit any territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner. In the Joint Statement made during the visit of President Musharraf on April 18, 2005, both countries reaffirmed the commitments made in the Joint Press Statement of January 6, 2004.

Significant developments have taken place in India-Pakistan relations since April 2003 when India extended the hand of friendship to Pakistan. Relations, which were disrupted after the attack on Parliament on December 13, 2001, have been restored at the level of High Commissioners and transport and communication links have resumed. After the January 6, 2004 commitment of President Musharraf not to permit the territory under Pakistan's control to be used to support terrorism in any manner, the Composite Dialogue process was resumed and people to people contact increased, giving a new impetus and dimension to our relations. Besides, the ceasefire along the LoC, International Border and AGPL (Siachen) which came into effect on November 25, 2003 has held (with some exceptions). The first round of the Composite Dialogue on the eight issues — Siachen, Sir Creek, Tulbal Navigation Project, Terrorism and Drug Trafficking, Economic and Commercial Cooperation, Promotion of Friendly Exchanges, Peace and Security, including CBMs and Jammu and Kashmir took place from June—August, 2004. The second round of Composite Dialogue Talks has been initiated by the Foreign Secretaries' meeting in December 2004 and is currently in progress.

Infiltration into Indian Territory

†3174. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI BALVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Peoples Liberation Army of China have infiltrated into Indian territory, recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the policy of China regarding Arunachal Pradesh;

(d) whether China considers Arunachal Pradesh as an Indian Territory; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The resolution of the boundary question between India and China is outstanding. The two sides also have differences in perception of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the India-China border areas. Both sides carry out patrolling activity in the India-China border areas. There are instances, from time to time, of transgression of the LAC by the Chinese military personnel.

(c) to (e) China disputes the legality of the McMahon Line dividing Arunachal Pradesh and the Tibet Autonomous Region of China and illegally claims 90,000 square kilometres of Indian territory in the Eastern Sector (Arunachal Pradesh) of the India-China border areas.

Joint Steering Committee Between India and China

3175. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China have agreed to set up a Joint Steering Committee to promote collaborations between the two countries in information technology and other sectors of science and technology;

(b) if so, the details of the discussion held in this regard and outcome thereof; and

(c) the progress achieved, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the visit of China's State Councillor in charge of science and technology, Mme Chen Zhili, to India in November 2004, both sides agreed to establish an India-China Steering Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation, co-chaired by their Ministers for Science and Technology, to review the implementation of existing agreements for bilateral science and technology cooperation and to identify specific areas for future cooperation. This decision was confirmed in the Joint Statement signed